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they have done well, and several of *T. bracteata* have thrown up long spikes and blossomed—though much later than in their native clime. From the lot I selected a cluster of *T. cæspitosa*, Leconte, for my dry herbarium, thinking that it would dry out. But I noticed after some time that the plant seemed green, so I tied its roots upward to a rafter, where it was deprived entirely of moisture. And now after nearly six months it has assumed a thoroughly live appearance and increased in growth amazingly. By spring it will no doubt blossom. The long moss *T. usneoides*, of which I hung quantities on my cherry trees in the yard, has grown very fast all summer and I dread the approach of frost, when it must succumb to the rigors of our northern climate.

W. W. CALKINS.

NOMENCLATURE IN ATLANTIC U. S. POLYPETALÆ.—The article in the GAZETTE for August, p. 193, noting changes in the names of the Polypetalæ of the Manual, as indicated in Watson's Bibliographical Index, brings to view an error in that carefully prepared index, either clerical or typographical, which has till now escaped detection. The GAZETTE notes that "*Cardamine rhomboidea*, var. *purpurea*, Torr., is *C. rotundifolia*, Mx." Those who know the two plants will not need to be told that this is wrong. The three synonyms adduced under *C. rotundifolia* in the Index must have been accidentally inserted under that species, instead of under *C. rhomboidea*.

There are a few other names in the list in respect to which the Index hardly gives the last word. Although the question is a nice one, the author of the Index would, on reconsideration, probably prefer *Spergularia* to *Lepigonum*; the change of *Sullivantia Ohionis* into *S. Ohioensis* was accidental; *Dalibarda repens* (pace Benth. & Hook.) will probably stand as the type of a good genus; and whoever uses the Linnæan name of *Vitis arborea* for a species which is not arborescent is not entitled to forego *Epilobium angustifolium*, L., (well enough named in contradistinction to its relative *E. latifolium*, L.,) in behalf of the much later *E. spicatum* of Lamarck. Apparently the same rule should govern the two cases.—A. GRAY.

FLORA OF DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS.—It has been my bad or good fortune to live in this little corner of the world for twenty years, but it is only for ten years that I have given earnest attention to botanical pursuits. During that time I have collected carefully all the plants I have found in the county. Very few I think can have escaped my constant search, so that the following figures may be considered correct. There are 839 indigenous species, to which must be added 66

introduced species that have taken such a foothold that they may be considered indigenous, making a total of 905 species and good varieties. These are distributed through 105 orders and 455 genera. The largest order is that of the *Gramineæ*, being represented by 125 species. The next largest orders are the *Compositæ* with 121 species and the *Leguminosæ* with 81 species. The *Orchidaceæ* have but 3 species and the Ferns number 7 representing as many genera. The *Ericaceæ* have not a single representative. Three new species have been discovered in this county, viz: *Dalea Hallii*, Gr., *Vicia Reverchoni*, Watson, and *Scutellaria brevifolia*, Gr., to which I hope to add two more, a *Cuscuta* and a *Silphium*.

With the advance of civilization several species have been nearly exterminated and to my knowledge three, at least, have entirely disappeared.—JULIEN REVERCHON, *Dallas, Dallas Co., Texas*.

POISONING BY RHUS TOXICODENDRON.—As botanists are very apt to meet with cases of poisoning by the so-called poison ivy or poison oak, it is just as well for them to know a cure that is simple and effectual. In the *Medical Record* of July 12 is a note from Dr. Wm. E. Brandt, of Hanover, Ind., in which he claims to have found such a remedy. He states that the treatment for this trouble has been rational only since the discovery that the poisoning agent was an acid. Very naturally, then, alkaline substances should be used to neutralize the poison, and Dr. Brandt has found that the hyposulphite of soda is probably the best. He uses a saturated solution, keeping the affected skin moist, and in severe cases giving it internally at the same time. He has thus succeeded in checking the worst cases in from 24 to 48 hours.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN BOTANY, IX, by Sereno Watson.—In the last GAZETTE we noticed the first part of this contribution, being a revision of North American *Liliaceæ*. The second part is devoted to the description of about 50 new species, chiefly from the far west. The *Ranunculus alismæfolius* of the Manual becomes a new species, and as it has been knocking about for some time it is called *R. ambigens*. Three new Crucifers are described, a *Dentaria*, a *Draba* and a *Thelypodium*. Two *Silenes* are reported and both do honor to the Botanic Garden, one being *S. Grayii* and the other *S. Sargentii*. Two *Psoraleas* are described, and one has so nearly the odor of a skunk that it is called *P. mephitica*. *Vicia* also gains two species, one from Texas and the other from Florida. One of the most interesting things in the list, though, is the description of a new *Sullivan-*